

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#10 JUNE 22, 2009

SACHLA HAMAI

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

To:

June 22, 2009

Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

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STATUS REPORT ON UTILITY USERS TAX - MEASURE U

On November 5, 2008, on motion by Supervisor Antonovich and Supervisor Molina, the Board instructed the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to report back in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10 Proposed Budget with a plan to spend the utility users tax (UUT) revenues in accordance with the intent of Measure U, which are services dedicated to the unincorporated areas.

The November 4, 2008 election resulted in the passage of Measure U, in which the unincorporated area voters of Los Angeles County approved a reduction of the existing UUT from 5.0 percent to 4.5 percent and expanded the telecommunications taxes to include Voice-over Internet Protocol, text messaging, paging services, and cellular telephone communications. Revenue generated from the UUT provides funding for vital County services, primarily in the unincorporated areas, such as law enforcement, parks, libraries, street repairs, health, and other general fund services.

On March 4, 2009, our office issued a memo soliciting input from departments that currently provide services to the unincorporated areas. Our status memo dated April 21, 2009 informed your Board that recommendations would be provided no later than June 22, 2009. This extension would allow for the time needed to analyze all the responses received from departments and Board offices in order to develop a work plan on how to best provide services from available one-time funds and incorporate the priorities identified by the Board offices and departments.

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Given the State budget impact and worsening fiscal forecast, we recommend delaying the allocation of UUT revenues until September, when we have a better grasp of the budget situation and any necessary reductions in unincorporated services. We plan to incorporate our recommendations into the FY 2009-10 Supplemental Budget Resolution for your Board's consideration. At the present time, it is critical that we focus on our priority to preserve the current level of services.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know or your staff may contact Debbie Lizzari at (213) 974-6872.

WTF:SRH:DIL SK:ED:CD:yjf

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

UUT Status.bm